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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/970,644	10/05/2001	Kai-Yu Sun	SUNK3001/EM/7297	2039
23364	7590	03/05/2004	EXAMINER	
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC 625 SLATERS LANE FOURTH FLOOR ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			SHANKAR, VIJAY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2673	3

DATE MAILED: 03/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/970,644

Applicant(s)

SUN ET AL.

Examiner

VIJAY SHANKAR

Art Unit

2673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. 1) Claim 1, line 4; Claim 12, line 6; Claim 21, lines 7-8; the limitation

"said front blades" lacks antecedent basis .

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- 2) Claim 1, line 4; Claim 12, line 6; and Claim 21, line 8; the limitation
"said rear blades" lacks antecedent basis .

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- 3) Claims 8, 19, 28 , line 1; the limitation "said binding unit " lacks
antecedent basis .

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- 4) Claim 21, line 14; the limitation "said flat panel " lacks antecedent basis .
There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Min (6,577,288)..

Regarding Claim 1, Min teaches a housing for protecting a flat panel display (2 in fig.1) and/or a backlight module, comprising: a rear blade, a front blade, and a side blade (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.3, line 48), wherein the side blade is integrated with and sandwiched between the front blades and the rear blades to form a frame having a cross-section in a shape (figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2) , and the frame is allowed to fold to surround the partial or the whole edge of the flat panel display and/or a backlight module (summary; background; figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2).

Regarding Claim 2, 8, 13, 19, 24, 28, Min teaches frame further comprising at least a binding unit on the surface of the frame to fix and close the two ends of the frame; and the binding unit is a combination of a hook and a groove (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2).

Regarding Claim 3, 7, 14, 18, 25, Min teaches rear blade or the front blade has at least a cut or a gap; and the cut is V-cut (fig.2; col.1, lines 48-62).

Regarding Claim 4, 15, 26, Min teaches the length of the frame is not greater than the peripheral length of the flat panel display and/or a backlight module (fig.3).

Regarding Claim 5, 16, 27, Min teaches frame has at least one opening for an electric cable connecting to the flat panel display and/or the backlight module (fig.2; col.1, lines 25-62).

Regarding Claim 6, 17, 23, Min teaches at least one separate blade locating on the inner surface of the side blade (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.3, line 48).

Regarding Claim 9, Min teaches the flat panel display comprises a panel and a backlight module (fig.3)

Regarding Claim 10, 20, 29, Min teaches flat panel display is a liquid crystal display panel (10 in fig.5).

Regarding Claim 11, Min teaches the frame is made by plastic or metal (fig.3; col.3, lines 14-16).

Regarding Claim 12, Min teaches flat panel display, comprising: A display panel; and a housing for protecting a flat panel display (2 in fig.1) and/or a backlight module, comprising: a rear blade, a front blade, and a side blade (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.3, line 48) wherein the side blade is integrated with and sandwiched by the front blades and the rear blades to form a frame having a cross-section in a shape (figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2) and the frame is allowed to fold to surround the partial or whole edge of the flat panel display and/or a backlight module (summary; background; figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2) .

Regarding Claim 21, Min teaches method for assembling a flat panel display, comprising following steps: (A) providing a flat panel display (2 in fig.1) or a backlight module, and a housing for protecting a flat panel display and/or a backlight module, comprising: a rear blade, a front blade, and a side blade (fig.3; column 2, line 63- col.3, line 48) wherein the side blade is integrated with and sandwiched by the front blades and the rear blades to form a frame having a cross-section in a shape (figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2) and the frame is allowed to fold to surround the partial or whole edge of the flat panel display and/or a backlight module; and (B) folding or bending the frame to surround at least part of the edge of the flat panel (summary; background; figs. 3-5; column 2, line 63- col.4, line 2) .

Regarding Claim 22, Min teaches flat panel display comprises a panel and a backlight module.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VIJAY SHANKAR whose telephone number is 703-305-4763. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BIPIN SHALWALA can be reached on 703-305-4938. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



VIJAY SHANKAR
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2673

VS